7th Sunday of Easter Sunday, May 24, 2020 8:30 & 11:00 am



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Jesus prayed 2,000 years ago that all his followers would be one. Whatever our differences, we are united in him. Let us worship God together.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Presider: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen

Presider: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has

promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Presider: Most Merciful God,

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

All: We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth.

Amen.

Presider: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant

in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus

Christ.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

GATHERING SONG

PASTORAL GREETING

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

A

KYRIE



men.

NOW THE FEAST





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...... Almighty and eternal God, your Son our Savior is with you in eternal glory. Give us faith to see that, true to his promise, he is among us still, and will be with us to the end of time; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

CHILDRENS SERMON

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

L: The First Lesson is from Acts the 1st chapter, beginning at the 6th verse:

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

¹Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered;

let those who hate him flee before him.

²Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away;

as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens;

YAHWEH is his name, rejoice before him!

⁵Father of orphans, defender of widows,

God in his holy habitation!

⁶God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in dry places.

⁷O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸the earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,

at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; you refreshed the land when it was weary.

 10 Your people found their home in it;

in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

³³Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

³⁴He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;

he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

³⁵Ascribe power to God;

his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.

³⁶How wonderful is God in his holy places,

the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

L: The Second Lesson is from 1 Peter the 4th chapter, beginning at the 12th verse:

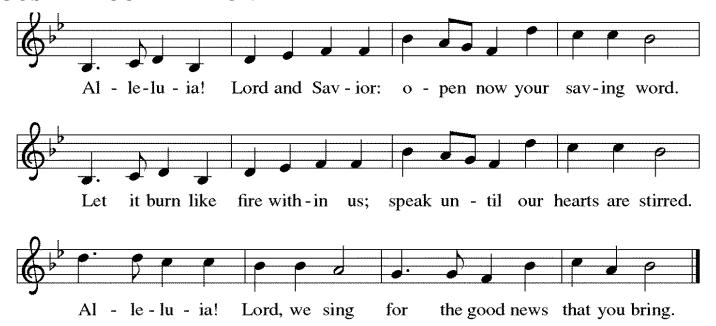
¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th chapter, beginning at the 15th verse:

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, 2 since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are

in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

APOSTLE'S CREED

A: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

O God, call your people to be one, as you are one. Unite your church in the truth of your gospel, the love of our neighbor, and the call to proclaim your reign to all people. Lord, in your mercy,

- C: hear our prayer.
- A: Breathe life into your creation. Guide your people as we explore the mysteries of the universe. We pray for the work of scientists and mathematicians whose skill enriches our understanding (*like Nicholas Copernicus and Leonard Euler, whom the church commemorates today*). Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: Make your justice known among the nations of the earth. Protect the vulnerable (*especially in nations currently in crisis*). Redirect those who use violence and greed as weapons. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Come to the aid of your children. We pray for those engulfed in grief, those without supportive families, and for all who are isolated, powerless, or afraid, that all may rest their anxieties in your care. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Gracious God, watch over and care for all persons who serve in the military..... Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: Give courage to all who embark on new ventures. We especially remember this day those who risked their lives to serve in our armed forces. Grant safety to those serving at home or abroad, and assure them of your never-failing strength. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: Raise all your saints to eternal life. Until that day, we give you thanks for the faithful examples of those who have listened to your voice and now rest in you. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

The congregation is invited to greet one another with a gesture of peace (hand shake or hug) using these or similar words – *God's peace be with you*.

OFFERING

Gathering of Offerings Offertory Presentation of our Gifts

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.... God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

C: Amen



P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you. O God, through Jesus Christ, who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love, and so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

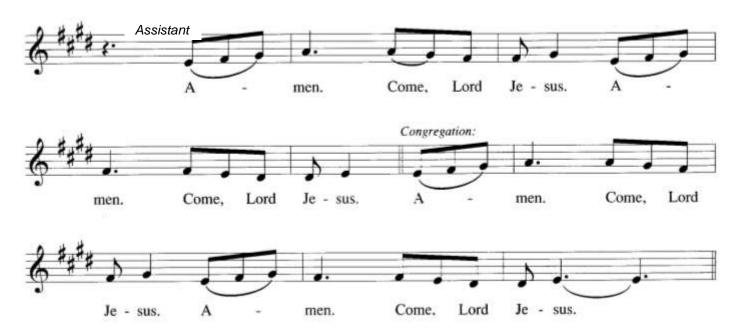


THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

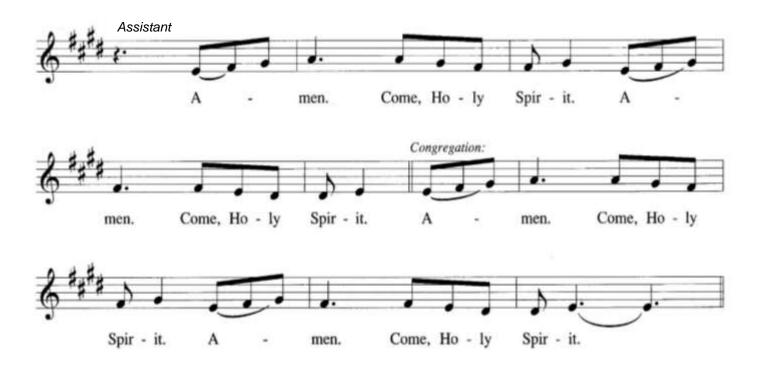
P: You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God; everything is filled with your glory. We give you thanks for your promise and presence which has sustained the faithful in this and every generation. Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is by body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. P: Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again, even as we cry:

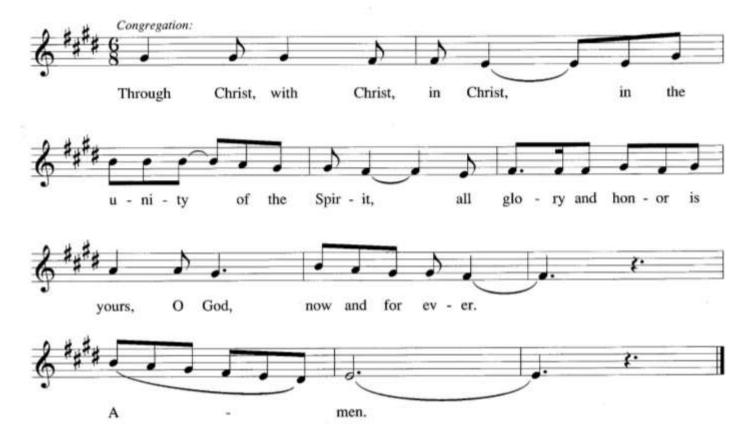


P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation.



P: This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.

THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST



LORD'S PRAYER

P: Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, Now and forever. Amen

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome you to the Lord's Table to share the Sacrament of Holy Communion with us. Holy Communion is served with both red wine and white grape juice. It is your choice to receive either one.

Empty cups may be placed in the bowl to the left or right as you return to your seat.

COMMUNION - Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you are the bread of life for us all:

have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you break the chains of hatred and fear:

have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of justice and peace:

have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of mercy and love:

have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray... Almighty God, source of every blessing, your generous goodness comes to us anew every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Jesus' Prayer

Decades beyond her early childhood, from time to time she repeats the bedtime prayer she has never forgotten: "Now I lay me down to sleep. I pray the Lord my soul to keep. Guard me, Jesus, through the night, and wake me with the morning light." What then follows is the threading of names, precious like pearls, on a string. "God bless . . . ," she begins, then lists mom, dad, grandmas, grandpas, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, all by name. Then teachers she liked, friends nearby and hungry children afar, the sick neighbor, the old man in the library, the blind lady at the post office, the lifeguard at the beach. Sometimes there is an "Amen," but often sleep comes first.

Jesus washes the feet of his disciples, shares a farewell meal with them, and teaches for the last time about his way of love. He promises again the presence of the Spirit and the coming of God's peace. Then, at the end of the day, he prays that God will be with his followers—and he prays for each of us. Jesus prays for his disciples, that they might know the love of God just as much as they know the real person of Jesus.

Jesus' prayer is also a prayer for unity. Jesus prays that we may be one just as he and God are one. Jesus prays, "All mine are yours, and yours are mine" (John 17:10). Following Jesus' example, we also may pray for the unity of all people with God, and the reconciling of peoples and all creation. We pray that what the world rejects God will receive. We pray that what the world divides God will make one. We pray that what the world threatens God will protect.

May we be comforted by Jesus' prayer for us, and may we be so emboldened to pray ourselves for the blessing, presence, and unity found in our risen Lord and Savior.